

A FREE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2017

MIMBRES MESSENGER

Manzanita Ridge Returns a Stolen Work of Art to its Rightful Owners!

David Van Auker, Buck Burns and Rick Johnson of Manzanita Ridge put Silver City in the International spotlight with their honesty and integrity.

University of Arizona Museum of Art in Tucson

On Friday, November 29, 1985 (the day after Thanksgiving) at 9 am, a security guard unlocked the UA Museum in Tucson and was immediately followed in by a man and a woman. The security guard allowed them early entrance, after all the museum is there for the public. All three were headed upstairs when the woman distracted the security guard to discuss a painting that was hanging in the stairwell. The man continued upstairs. A short time later the man came back downstairs and the couple left. The security guard became suspicious because they were there only 10 minutes, and went upstairs to discover a museum's worst nightmare. One of the museum's most prized and valuable paintings had been cut from its frame and had probably gone out of the museum rolled up and stuffed under the man's coat. Everyone at the museum was devastated.

The oil painting was "Woman-Ochre" by Dutch-American Abstract Impressionist, Willem de Kooning, and is part of his series that features figures of a woman. De Kooning painted the series between 1950 and 1955, and they are the most famous works of his 70 year career. De Kooning died in 1997. "Woman-Ochre" was donated to the UA museum in 1958 by Edward Gallagher Jr. in memory of his young son who died at age 13. At that time, the painting was valued at \$400,000. "Woman III" (part of the same series) sold for \$137.5 million in 2006. "Woman I" is on display at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. Today, "Woman-Ochre" is considered priceless, particularly given its notorious provenance.

Brian Seastone, now the UA Police Chief, was at the time of the theft a 27 year old officer and the lead detective on the case. Police didn't find much of a crime scene.

There were no security cameras, no fingerprints, and no license plate number. All they had was a description of the thieves and the fact that they fled in a rust colored sports car. Police circulated a composite sketch of the thieves. The man was described as 25-30 with an olive complexion, curly hair, mustache and glasses. The woman was older, 55-60 and wore a headscarf and "granny" glasses. These were probably disguises, and the woman may have actually been a man in disguise.

Seastone alerted the FBI and Interpol. He has been working the case for the past 31 years. He has investigated at least 20 tips over the years and nothing has led to the painting's whereabouts. (See YouTube video Stealing Woman Ochre - 8:18 minutes.) Knowing it was unlikely that the painting remained in the Tucson area, whenever and wherever the FBI recovered famous stolen paintings, Seastone would follow up and ask "Is she in there?" Stolen art work trafficking is the fourth most lucrative crime behind drug dealing, human trafficking, and arms dealing.

Every year, on the anniversary of the theft, the empty frame was displayed. All the public could see of "Woman-Ochre" were the frayed edges where the canvas was cut from the frame.

In 2015, on the 30th anniversary of the heist, the university decided to try to draw attention to the "Woman-Ochre" theft, in hope that some tip might generate clues for the FBI's art-theft team. The university's press release caught the attention of many national media outlets including NPR radio. The empty frame was once again displayed at the museum, with no results. (See YouTube video 30 years since UA's priceless painting went missing - 2:05 minutes.)



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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR**By: Anna Willhite**

Things have been busy around these parts lately, with more to come.

The August Hummingbird Festival, held for the first time at the Mimbres Culture Heritage Site, was wonderful. The banding and release of the hummingbirds and the talks about the phenomenal little birds was informational, interesting and great fun for children and adults. There were many people of all ages present to enjoy the two-day event. A wide variety of vendors with artistic, utilitarian and unique offerings added to the fun. Hats off to the folks at Mimbres Culture Heritage Site for a job well done.

Next on the calendar of local events is the 12th Annual Mimbres Harvest Festival on September 30th. The festival organizers have been hard at work and are putting together a varied and appealing day with many new and traditional vendors and activities. See all the details in this issue.

In August, local, national and international news focused on Silver City following the discovery of an historic painting by Willem de Kooning which was stolen from the University of Arizona Museum of Art in 1985. The discovery of the priceless lost art was made by Buck Burns, Rick Johnson and David Van Auken, the co-owners of Manzanita Ridge, the marvelous eclectic store in Silver City.

We were privileged to spend some time with the folks at Manzanita Ridge and to hear first hand of the incredible events which included the University of Arizona Art Museum staff, local law enforcement and the FBI. The article in this month's issue describes the almost unbelievable series of events that resulted in the return of the painting to its rightful

home after 31 years. This happy ending was due in no small part to the efforts of the three great guys from Silver City.

More good news from another great guy. Bob Barnes, publisher of the Blackrange Rag and other superb content concerning the area was the victim of a viscous cyber attack in July. (That is definitely not the good news.) Bob writes: The August issue (of *The Mimbres Messenger*) is published on www.blackrange3.org. *The Messenger* has its own link in the main navigation bar – see the page <http://blackrange3.org/mimbres-messenger.html>. The July issue was posted on August 29th.

After the disastrous attack on his websites by the Russian Petya virus, Bob has obviously gone back to work to continue his valuable work to provide the area with wonderful online reading. We are happy that he is back online and very grateful that he has continued making *The Mimbres Messenger* available to everyone online (and in color!). So log on and enjoy both past, current and future issues any time you like. Join us in thanking Bob Barnes again for all of his generous efforts on our behalf.

Have a Happy Labor Day.

For Sale

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Continued from Page 1 - Woman-Ochre

August 2017 Manzanita Ridge, Silver City, New Mexico

At the end of Bullard Street in Silver City, there is a wonderful store called Manzanita Ridge which is run by Buck, David and Rick. I can't imagine anyone who lives in or near Silver City that hasn't frequented Manzanita Ridge and been awed by their wonderful eclectic assortment of "stuff". You never know what you will find there, but I can't remember ever going into the store and not making a purchase. Not only is their merchandise great, but they are the nicest group of guys you would ever want to meet. (This story just confirms our good judgement!). But I digress!

In late July, Manzanita Ridge proprietors received a call from a man who did not live in New Mexico but was the executor of his late aunt's estate and needed someone to clean out the house so he could put it on the market. Normally, Manzanita Ridge buys merchandise from resorts and hotels and does not purchase estates. However, when he mentioned the house had lots of mid-century furniture, they became interested. At this point, the contents of the house had already been perused by the family and the real estate agent, and they had already taken out everything they wanted. On Tuesday, August 1st, the three men picked up the key from the realtor and drove out to survey the contents of the estate.

Most of the small articles and artwork off the walls was gone. Mostly what remained was the furniture, three paintings, Navajo rugs and some African pieces. The men split up to assess and photograph the contents they would be purchasing. David went into the master bedroom to look at a mid-century bedroom set. One of the doors was off the dresser and the bedroom door was blocking it and he wanted to see if it could be repaired. It was when he moved the door that he first saw the painting that was hanging behind the bedroom door. First he thought it was a print, but then noticed it was an actual oil painting. David said, he didn't think anything of it. He liked it. He called Buck into the room because he wanted to take it home, intending to hang it in his guest house. The

men went on recording, drove back to the store, called the executor of the estate, made an offer which was accepted, and that was that--just another routine transaction.

On Wednesday, August 2, Rick and David went back to the house to pick up some planters that were outside (they were afraid they would get stolen) and to get some of the small fragile items inside. A big U-Haul would get the furniture later. They filled the back seat with some pottery pieces, lamps, African artifacts and odds and ends. The paintings were actually the last things that went in on top of everything else.



They returned to the store and started unpacking, cleaning and pricing the merchandise. One of their first customers of the day, James Cuetara, spotted the painting resting on the floor and leaning against some other items. Recognizing the artist, he inquired whether that was a real de Kooning. At this point, David was thinking that the piece was a study.

The estate people were artists, and he assumed they went to the museum and copied the piece. His grandmother use to copy masterpieces.

That day, two more customers, Nancy Rivera and Maureen Craig took notice of the painting and speculated whether it was a real de Kooning. Silver City is home to many artists and culturally educated people and it is not surprising that de Kooning was familiar to many. One customer told them that Willem de Kooning's paintings sell for between a couple of thousand and millions of dollars.

Cuetara came back and said they should investigate this painting. They all got a real good laugh when he jokingly offered them \$200,000 for the painting if it was genuine. Maureen, who had taken a picture of the painting, also came back and said they should investigate the painting and suggested they contact the de Kooning Foundation for which they could not find a phone number.

This started their internet investigation where they soon discovered that a painting that looked exactly like the one in their store had been stolen 31 years ago from the UA Museum and was never recovered. David, a trained interior designer, started looking at the painting more closely, blowing up the photos on the internet and comparing the brush strokes, etc. with their painting.

Continued on Page 9 - Woman-Ochre

SEPTEMBER 30 - SAN LORENZO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

NEW ACTIVITIES and OLD FAVORITES WILL BE AT THIS YEAR'S HARVEST FESTIVAL

The premier event of the year in the valley is fast approaching! The Mimbres Valley Harvest Festival will be held from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM on Saturday September 30 at the San Lorenzo Elementary School. Mark your calendars, bring the kids, and spend the day celebrating with fun and food. There will be locally produced fruits and vegetables, arts and crafts by local artisans, two live bands, a horseshoe tournament, kids' games, an outstanding raffle, silent auction, pie-baking contest and many other activities. Wiebke, an award winning Friesian horse, will strut her stuff wearing a jeweled headstall. The US Forest Service, Upper and Lower Mimbres Volunteer Fire Departments, and other organizations will have staff on-hand at to provide information

Welcome to the Twelfth Annual



MIMBRES VALLEY HARVEST FESTIVAL

Saturday
September 30, 2017
San Lorenzo School
NM Hwy 35
10am to 4pm

www.MimbresHarvestFest.com (575) 536-9821 or (575) 536-3687

Vendor forms are available on Page 19 or at www.mimbresharvestfest.com

Contacts:
Cheryl at 575-536-9629 for more artisan & business/organization booth information
Valli at 520-678-8577 for Growers' information
If you have items to donate for the Silent Auction contact Chuck Felix at 575-536-3721
Or to donate to the Raffle please contact Teri Hupp at 575-740-2355

and answer questions. The Grant County Cooperative Extension Service, along with experts from New Mexico State University, will hold an insect, weed and plant clinic to help you identify and manage the pests in your garden. There will be a health fair with heart rate, blood pressure, glucose and pulmonary function screening, flu shots, dental screening, mental health screening, doctor consultations, eyeglass adjustments and vision screenings, and other medical services. The Festival is a fundraiser that supports the school and the Mimbres Valley Health Action League, also known as MVHAL. So come on out and celebrate fall in the valley. You won't want to miss this one-of-a-kind event that comes around only once a year.

MIMBRES VALLEY FARMERS' MARKET

Is happening again!

Every Wednesday from 3 pm till 5 pm
At the Valle Mimbres Market
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Support you Local Farmers!

New Historic Marker

Watch for a new historic marker near the Senior Citizen's Center on Highway 35. The marker celebrates the Mimbres Valley and its remarkable people and history.



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HARVEST FESTIVAL HAPPENINGS

It's The Mimbres Health Fair 10th Year!



Yes! Believe it or not the Mimbres Health Fair is happening again, year number ten, inside the San Lorenzo Elementary School gym on Saturday September 30th from 9am to 2pm.

Of course, that's also our wonderful Mimbres

Harvest Festival at the same time so... you can get a check up with a whole variety of health screens, get your flu shot, talk with a doctor from Hidalgo Medical Services about your screening results then head out to the San Lorenzo field for a great day of fun, food, music and crafts for sale!

This year the Health Fair will again have the WNMU Nursing School students and professors doing blood pressure and glucose checks, Walgreens giving FREE FLU SHOTS, Hidalgo Medical Services with Dental screenings, Mental Health Services "Check Up From The Neck Up" screenings, their Family Support Services ready to assist you with almost any kind of community referral you need, WalMart Vision Center for eyeglass adjustments and consults, Hometown Oxygen, Grant County Extension Office, Ambercare Home Health, Angel Wings Home Care, HMS Senior Services Program, Compassion and Choices and more.

Last year's Health Fair had over 250 people sign in and receive healthcare screenings that, in some cases, really did help a number of people get the urgent medical help they needed to feel better and get healthier!

We're pleased to be able offer this really important event for our valley and County residents and appreciate the healthcare providers offering so many great services and our sponsors as well. We are so grateful for their support!

If you have any questions, call Chris at 956-3225

Remember... September 30th, 9 am to 2 pm in the gym! Be sure to sign in, get your screening form and have at it! We'll see you there.



El Agua es La Vida (Water is Life)

An acequia booth at the Mimbres Valley Harvest Festival aims to raise awareness about the historic "acequia" system of cooperative irrigation that has survived in our state for over 400 years. It has an ancient legacy in dry lands around the world. The Moors brought it from North Africa to southern Spain and the Spanish carried it to Mexico and New Mexico. Here on the Mimbres River, the system involves 36 different "acequias", the name for the traditional communal irrigation ditches or canals as well as the self-governing democratic organizations (actually part of state government) that regulate them.

A survey of the acequias will also begin at the acequia booth. Everyone on an acequia is invited to participate in the survey by providing up-to-date information about their acequia and its elected leader or "mayordomo" and what crops or animals they raise.

In order to have a greater say in what happens to acequia or surface irrigation rights and local agriculture, a Rio Mimbres Acequia Association is being proposed. Banding together to form a regional association will make us part of the statewide New Mexico Acequia Association, a strong voice for agricultural water use at the New Mexico legislature.

Handouts will be available at the booth about the acequia system and the benefits of a regional association. For more information contact Valerie McCaffrey at vallimac51@gmail.com.



Land for Sale by Owner

Own a piece of the scenic and private Mimbres Valley Ranch located on highway 61, between MM 20 and MM 21 in the Magical Mimbres Valley! Be a part of an Eco-Ranch where you will have access to the entire 1,700 acre ranch. Roads, underground power and phone lines to the tract lines in place. Some basic covenants apply. 20 acre tract available.

Call (575) 534-4529

MORE HARVEST FESTIVAL HAPPENINGS

NMSU State Specialists (Weeds, Entomology & Plant Pathology) will hold Bug/Weed/Plant Clinic at Harvest Festival

Returning
Favorite

New to the area and want to find out the names of a bunch of different weeds that you are battling with and what would be most effective to deal with them? Is a certain bug turning

your grape vine leaves to shreds and you want to know alternatives to stop it?

Everyone is encouraged to bring pest bugs as well as beneficial insects, weeds and plants with problems for i.d. (and help) to the Grant County Extension booths at the Mimbres Valley Harvest Festival on September 30 at the San Lorenzo School.

NMSU State Specialists will include an entomologist, a plant pathologist and a weed expert. Check out the gorgeous insect displays and talk to these experts about your growing problems.

According to Judy O'Loughlin, Grant Co. Extension Program Director, "We were out there (at the festival) about 3 years ago and the folks from NMSU are still talking about how GREAT it was and they want to come back!"

HARVEST FESTIVAL PIE CONTEST

Returning
Favorite

BEST PIE IN THE MIMBRES *It Could be YOURS!*

Bring your pie to the pie tent by 9:30 am
Judging starts at 10 am

Contestants will get raffle tickets for
each pie entry

Pies must be in disposable containers

CATEGORIES

Fruit

Berry

Nut

Harvest

NO CREAM PIES



CULTURE HERITAGE SITE RAFFLE



Mimbres Culture Heritage Site Raffle tickets will benefit the museum. There are wonderful raffle items that will be given away at the Harvest Festival. A set of Mimbres Turtle dishes, place setting for 4, an ironwood eagle carving, 3 floral paintings by Dorothy Bullock of the Lake Roberts area, a large copper tray and a pair of western collector dolls are ready to go home with you. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5, or at their booth at the Harvest Festival. Stop by the Mimbres Museum between 11 am and 3 pm to purchase tickets. The drawing will be at the Harvest Festival. You are helping the IFWEF keep the lights on this winter. *Need not be present to win. Winners will be asked to cover mailing expenses if necessary. Or for tickets, phone 575.202.9984 or 575.536.3333.

AUCTION ~ RAFFLE ~ PRIZES



This year we are introducing a new aspect to the fundraising efforts at The 12th Annual Mimbres Valley Harvest Festival.

In addition to the raffle, we will be having a silent auction with a wide variety of items for attendees to bid on. Thanks to the kind citizens and businesses of Grant County who have made donations, we will be offering a wide array of items for auction such as: stoneware pottery, jewelry, a lamp, a very large Mexican Pottery Candelabra, hand crafted soaps and body scrubs, knitted and crocheted items, Mata Ortiz Pottery, auto-graphed books, a Braun Handblender, Houdini Lever Corkscrew, an Ascot Portable Wine Tote, a large Tonalá Pottery Platter, as well as other items still coming in.

The raffle will include prizes such as an airplane ride, a load of firewood, massage, gift cards, and cash prizes as well as other goodies. We are looking forward to seeing everyone on September 30. Special thanks to Chuck Felix whose efforts have been instrumental in rounding up most of the donations.

Be sure to purchase raffle tickets and bid on your favorite silent auction items. You will be helping to support the Harvest Festival, and you might end up with a great prize!

EVEN MORE HARVEST FESTIVAL HAPPENINGS

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT

There is a lively lineup of great music for the Harvest Festival this year that is sure to entertain young and all !!!

10 am - The first act will be the Rivers Bend Band - old time gospel group from the Mimbres Valley.

12 noon - The second act will be Dan Simonis of the West Texas Millionaires. He Plays acoustic guitar in the styles of country and Americana.

2: 00 pm - The third act will be Dan Simonis and the New Mexicans The joined forces of Dan Simonis and Members of The Damn Union Band [of La Mesilla] will be perform-



- Young artists can help paint a mural—Plants and Pollinators of the Gila!
- Paint a Buffalo Gourd with artist Meg Streams.
- Have fun with clay; make a clay pot or clay animal sculpture.
- Make bead creations at the Bead Table under the canopy.
- Games—Bean bag toss, Treasure Chest activities, and more!
- School-age kids—Learn about Plants and Pollinators with Conejo Mimbrenño.



K.I.N.D. FUND Give Change to Make a Change

Students at San Lorenzo Elementary School are collecting change for the K.I.N.D. Fund (Kids in Need of Desks), a UNICEF organization. Some students drew pictures of their classroom and the artwork will be on display and for sale during the Harvest Festival. Please help the students and donate to this wonderful project.



HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT



The third annual Horseshoe Tournament will be held during the Harvest Festival again this year. This is a "fun" draising event that benefits the Mimbres Health Action League and its multitude of programs that serve the Mimbres Valley community.

Sign up from 11 am to 12 noon

Play is from 12 noon to 2 pm


This year, there will be great prizes from our sponsors. Gift certificates include: The Grinder Mill, Cactus Jacks, Millie's Bake House, Vicki's Eatery, Little Toad Creek, Tapas Tree Grill, Diane's and more to come!

Bring your friends and join the fun. This is a great way to reconnect with old friends and meet some new ones as well as having some fun "throwing a few shoes".

There will also be a couple of huachas pits for those players.



The Fresian horses will attend the Mimbres Valley Harvest Festival, and so should you!



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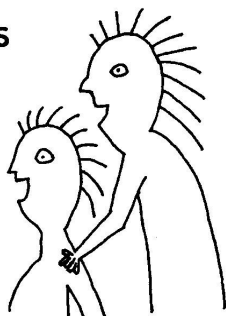
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wine and beer to take home.

Continued from Page 3 - Woman-Ochre
Now, they are starting to think they might possibly have the real thing. Buck decided to cover up the painting and hide it in the store bathroom. Within 5 minutes of thinking this was the real deal, they were on the phone trying to return it. There was never any discussion otherwise, it was the only thing to do. David called the UA Museum and spoke with curator Olivia Miller. He said, "Olivia was very calm and I was thinking to myself, 'this woman is going to think I'm a nut job'." Instead, she asked for photos and dimensions. The dimensions were consistent with the canvas being cut and stretched. Then she asked for a photo of the back. They emailed her that the painting had Masonite affixed to the back of it. Ok, thanks, and then they didn't hear from her again that day.

While Buck and David were certain the painting was the original, Rick didn't believe it yet. But, by the end of the day all three were getting nervous as to what to do with the painting. Handling it a little more carefully than previously, they folded a blanket around it, taped it up and took it home where they hid it behind the sofa, and got out the guns. No sleep that night.

Not having heard back from the museum, David tried to contact the reporter who had written the 2015 story, but got her voice mail. Then he remembered seeing something about the FBI art crime division. Finding a number for them proved a little challenging, but he finally got in touch with the Albuquerque field office and was put through to Washington where they were taking him very seriously. They told him to put the painting in a safe place—definitely not in the store.

In the meantime, David hadn't heard from the UA Museum, because they were frantically working with authorities and the administration to come to Silver City to see the painting. Miller said they were the two most frantic days of her life and she just didn't have the time to keep Manzanita Ridge up-to-date on the details.

On Friday, August 4th, not wanting to leave the painting unattended at home, Rick and

David drove around with the painting in the truck trying to find someone else to leave it with. They finally left "Woman-Ochre" with a friend and returned to work. The university got in touch with David with their plans to come to look at the painting. David said "If it is real, please take it with you." What started out as two people coming to see the painting ended up being 16—the entire museum staff plus law enforcement.

The entourage left Tucson at 6 pm and arrived in Silver about 11 pm. The friends, where the painting was being safely stored, were having a barbeque that night and David had already related the saga to them. Everyone joined the party. The staff from the museum had brought the original frame that still contained the ragged edges of the canvas and compared it to the painting. Everything matched up. They escorted the professionally packed painting to the van late Friday night. "At that point, this relief came over us-- it's going home." David said.

On August 9th, Nancy Odegaard, a conservator with the university, spent about two hours comparing the recovered painting with the notes kept on the original, and in her opinion it was the real thing. (See YouTube video Woman Ochre Returns to VA - 3:11 min.)



Olivia and David at Press Conference

After waiting for the FBI to give them clearance, on August 14th the university scheduled a press conference. About 100 people were in attendance, including Buck, David and Rick. David took the lead (after all, he was the one who spotted the painting behind the door). If you watch the YouTube video, you can feel the excitement and electricity in the room. David was the star of the show and had everyone laughing. (See YouTube video Woman Ochre Press Conference - 35:40 minutes).

One of the local Tucson restaurants, Café a la C'Art, was so impressed with the actions of David, Rick and Buck, that on the day of the press conference, even though they were closed, they held a private luncheon to honor the trio. They were treated to a wonderful meal complete with a We ♥ Silver City banner.



Rick, David & Buck celebrating at Café a la C'Art with Museum Staff

Even though the painting has been recovered, the mystery is still not solved. Now, everyone wants to know where the painting has been for the past 30 years. Who were the thieves? Are they still alive?

Continued on Page 18 - Woman-Ochre

COMMUNITY CALENDAR & HAPPENINGS

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS - EVERY TUESDAY and FRIDAY - 5:30 pm Mimbres Roundup Lodge, Acklin Hill Road. Speaker meeting last Tuesday of the month. For more information call 515-313-4693 or 888-388-1802.

ALZHEIMER CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP meets **September 4 and 18, 1st and 3rd Mondays at 10 am** at the Mimbres Senior Center. For more information call Sharon McGrath 536-3950.

CASAS ADOBES WATER ASSOCIATION - meets September 21 (usually the third Thursday of every month) 6:30 p.m. Roundup Lodge, Acklin Hill Road.

COMMODITIES DISTRIBUTION - September 20 (third Wednesday of every month) - 12 NOON to 2:00 pm - Roundup Lodge Please bring a suitable box. Volunteers to help pack boxes are always needed.

DESERT WEST AUCTION - THE BIG RED BARN - 3870 Hwy 35, Mimbres. Every second weekend each month Any questions contact the Coogans either by email at desertwest@desertwestauction.com or call 575-536-9353. Preview starts at 11 am - Auction and On-line bidding at 1 pm Saturday and Sunday. www.liveauctioneers.com or www.lcollector.com.

GIRL SCOUTS OF DESERT SOUTHWEST, TROOP 049 No summer meetings. Meetings will resume when school starts in the fall.

HMS MIMBRES CLINIC - Clinic Hours have been extended to three days. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday **8:00 am to 5 pm.** 575-536-3990

LA ESPERANZA VINEYARD & WINERY - Winery open Friday, Saturday and Sunday - Noon to 6:00 pm. Mimbres' Award Winning Winery. For more information call 505-259-9523 or 505-238-6252

MIMBRES CULTURE HERITAGE SITE - 12 Sage Drive (on Highway 35), The Mattocks Site and museum has a new summer schedule: Open daily 11 am to 3 pm. Special group tours can be arranged by calling 575-536-3333 or 575-536-3161 at least a week in advance.

MIMBRES EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE (MEMS) - Meetings have been cancelled until further notice. Contact Rebecca Hazen 575-574-8344 for information.

MIMBRES FARM BUREAU - Thursday, September 14 - Monthly meetings usually are the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. Roundup Lodge. Pot-luck supper followed by a business meeting. Everyone welcome.

MIMBRES VALLEY HARVEST FESTIVAL - Saturday, September 30 - San Lorenzo Elementary School. Food, Children's Activities, Raffles, Auctions, Horseshoes, Entertainment, Health Fair, Crafts, Growers, Venders and lots of Fun!

MIMBRES VALLEY HEALTH ACTION LEAGUE (MVHAL) - Board Meeting Second Wednesday of the month - September 13 - 5:30 pm. Roundup Lodge, Acklin Hill Road, San Lorenzo. Everyone Welcome.

MIMBRES VALLEY ROUNDUP LODGE BOOSTER CLUB Acklin Hill Road - Calendar of events.

BOOSTER CLUB MONTHLY MEETING. Thursday, September 7 first Thursday of each month. New members welcome. Light dinner served.

BINGO - Sunday, September 10 - 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm - Second Sunday of each month. Roundup Lodge - \$5 a card or 3 for \$10.00. Grand prize of \$50 cash.

MIMBRES VALLEY SENIOR CENTER - LUNCH DAILY— Monday - Friday 11:30 Reservations are requested one day in advance.

EXERCISE FOR SENIORS -Every Tuesday and Thursday - 10:00 am Stretching and light weight lifting. For information call Thelma Melvin 536-2899

SENIOR CENTER THRIFT STORE - open to everyone 9 am to 1:30 pm Monday through Friday. Great bargains by donation. There is also a free book lending area.

SENIOR CENTER ADVISORY COUNCIL - Meeting at the Center - Tuesday, September 26 (meets 4th Tuesday of each month after lunch) For information call Sharon McGrath 536-3950

MIMBRES VALLEY THERAPEUTIC HEALING MESSAGES - Tuesdays, Thursday and Saturdays - 2739 Highway 35. For appointments call 575-574-7069

NATIVE FLOW YOGA - Monday - Friday 11:00 am to Noon and 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm - Saturday, VINASA FLOW 11 am - noon Beginning and intermediate levels. All ages welcome. Gentle Vinyasa Flow and Restorative Yoga. \$8 per class or \$50 unlimited monthly. For more information contact Camille at 575-313-0728

VALLE MIMBRES MARKET - NEW HOURS ~ TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY 11am to 6 pm; Fresh organic and local produce, groceries and more. Every Wednesday 5% off for Seniors. Every Saturday 10% off all fresh produce. Credit, debit, EBT. 2739 Highway 35. 575-654-4150 www.Nativeflowyoga.com

COUNTY CALENDAR

ALBERTSONS - Wednesday, September 6 - First Wednesday of the month. Seniors 55+ get 10% off. All day.

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP - Every Wednesday - 6 pm to 7 pm - Arenas Valley Church of Christ, 5 Race Track Road, Arenas Valley. Open meeting for family and friends of alcoholics. For information, call 575-313-7094 or 575-654-1643

AMERICAN LEGION POST 18 of Silver City - meets every **Wednesday from 8:30 am to 10:30 am** for coffee and doughnuts for all veterans. 409 West College Avenue, Silver City. For more information contact Ray Davis 575-956-5153

AMERICAN LEGION POST 18 and THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILLARY - meet the second Saturday of every month at the American Legion Post - Breakfast at 9 am followed by a meeting at 10 am

BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN - Wednesday, September 13 - 2nd WEDNESDAYS - 6:00 pm Everyone, members and interested parties are invited. Meetings frequently include information on upcoming events, trail cleanings and conditions, educational presentations and demonstrations. **WNMU Watt's Hall Room #224 in Silver City Opposite CVS Pharmacy - NW corner of Hwy 180 and Swam - parking on Cactus** enter at NW door.

BAYARD PUBLIC LIBRARY - NEW HOURS - Monday - noon to 6 pm, Tuesday through Friday - 9 am to 6 pm CLOSED on Saturday and Sunday.

BOOKMOBILE WEST SCHEDULE - Thursday, September 21

Mimbres - NEW LOCATION - Living Harvest Bakery 9:45 am - 10:45 am

Lake Roberts - Sapillo Creek Fire Station 11:45 am - 12:45 pm

Doc Campbell's Post (near Gila Cliff Dwellings) 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Rural Bookmobile West - 1000 Main St. NW, Building 16A, Los Lunas, NM 87031

Phone: 505-841-5250 Fax: 505-841-5255 Email: rBMW@state.nm.us

Books by Mail Provides library service to those who are not reached by bookmobiles or public libraries. Toll free 1-800-395-9144

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped - Phone toll free 1-800-456-5515

FORT BAYARD WALKING TOURS - Private tours for family and friends visiting the area. Call 575-388-9123 or 575-574-8779

GRANT COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY - Wednesday, September 20 - 3rd WEDS of the month. Meetings will be back at the Roundup Lodge in Mimbres for the summer. Forest Service Archaeologist, Elizabeth Toney, will present the program. For information, call **Marilyn Markel 536-9337.**

GRANT COUNTY ROLLING STONES GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY - Thursday, September 14 - (2nd Thursday), 6:00 pm - Meeting and potluck followed by a rock draw. Bring your own service ware and dish to share. Silver City Senior Center - 204 W. Victoria Street in Silver City 575-536-1393 rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com
Field trip Saturday, September 16 the 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:30 am. For more information contact Ansel Walters at 575-388-2010

MS SUPPORT GROUP - First Tuesday of the month at 11:30 am for lunch in Silver City. Meetings are held in various City area restaurants. New members with Multiple Sclerosis are welcome. Email huseworld@yahoo.com for the location.

NEW HOPE AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP - EVERY MONDAY - 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm - First Presbyterian Church at 20th and Swan, Silver City. Open meeting for family and friends of alcoholics. For information, call Jerry 575-534-4866 or Diana 575-574-2311.

PUPPY DOG RANCH RESCUE AND SANCTUARY - Open by appointment Tuesday – Friday 10 am to 5 pm Grant County's only private, no kill, no cage rescue. 27 Twin Sisters Creek Road, Arenas Valley 575-313-7232

SILVER CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERSHIP LUNCH MEETING - Call the Chamber for the date and program 11:45 am Sunset Room of the WNMU Student Cafeteria located on the second floor of the Student Memorial Building at 1000 West College Avenue in Silver City. Cost will be \$15 per person or \$20 at the door. For more information contact the Silver City Grant County Chamber of Commerce at 575-538-3785

SILVER CITY FOOD CO-OP - Calendar of Events contact the Food Co-op at 575-388-2343 or www.silvercityfoodcoop.coop for information about any event.

TASTE OF DOWNTOWN - Saturday, September 2 - 11:30 am to 2:30 pm Taste foods that are available in the Coop.

ARTISIANS MARKET - Saturday, September 9 and 23 – 9 am to 2 pm at the Market Café. 614 N Bullard. Support your local artists. Interested in selling—call 338-2343 or email www.silvercityfoodcoop.coop

MEMBER APPRECIATION DAYS, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, September 14, 15 and 16. 15% off of your entire order. Special orders must be in no later than September 4th for this special pricing.

POPCORN FRIDAYS! Enjoy Free Organic Popcorn and Food Samples at the Silver City Food Co-op 520 North Bullard St.

MARKET CAFÉ IS OPEN - Monday and through Saturday 8:30 am - 7 pm and Sunday, 8:30 am - 5 pm

ROUNDUP DONATION PROGRAM - The August recipient of the Roundup Donation Program will be the Lotus Center. The September recipient will be the End of the Road Ranch. A horse rescue facility located in Arenas Valley.

SILVER CITY PHOTO CLUB - Will resume its first Wednesday meetings in September. If you are a photographer or just interested in pictures, please join us when we reconvene. This fall, check for speakers and location in this publication. Enjoy your summer.

WALGREENS - Tuesday, September 5 - (1st Tuesday of each month) - **SENIOR DISCOUNT** - 10% off of items not on sale.

WIDOWED AND SINGLE PERSONS OF GRANT COUNTY - Monday, September 11 - Sign in at 10:30 am - (second Monday of each month) Cross Point Assembly of God church (formerly Glad Tidings Church) 11600 Hwy 180 E - Speakers Adrienne Dare and Mike Jemin on Expanding your Horizons" Science conference for 5th-8th grade girls. Cost for lunch is \$12. All singles welcome For information, call 575-537-3643.

WOMEN'S AL-ANON MEETING: WOMEN EMBRACING RECOVERY - Every Friday - 5:30 pm to 6:30pm - La Clinica Health and Birth Center, 3201 Ridge Loop, Silver City. Closed meeting for women who are family and friends of alcoholics. For information call 575-313-7094 or 575-313-1032



MYSTERY PHOTO CHALLENGE FOR SEPTEMBER

This old truck has seen finer days. Know where it is sitting?

August's Mimbres Mystery is a street located up 35 about MM 11. Other nearby roads have military names, too



Photos by Kathy Hill



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Sunday Worship
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2620 Highway 35
Mimbres, NM
(575) 537-5254

SEPTEMBER



2017

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 4 CLOSED- HOLIDAY LABOR DAY	5 HAMBURGER PASTA SALAD BAKED BEANS ICE CREAM SUNDAE HM#6	6 BAKED HAM RICE GARDEN SALAD W/DRESSING GREEN BEANS YOGURT W/MANDARIN ORANGES #4	7 CHICKEN ON A BUN PEAS CARROTS W/ MARG ANGEL FOOD CAKE W/STRAWBERRIES #144	1 PEPPERONI PIZZA SPINACH SALAD MIXED VEGGIES PINEAPPLE PEANUT BUTTER COOKIE
11 CHICKEN FRIED STK MASHED POTATOES GREEN BEANS WW ROLL W/MARG APPLE COBBLER ***	12 TURKEY WRAP PASTA SALAD GRANOLA BAR CANTALOUPE SL 5	13 RED ENCHILADA BEANS LETTUCE & TOMATO WW BREAD FRUIT COCTAIL #503	14 OVEN FRIED CHICKEN SWEET POTATO W/MARG WW BREAD APPLE PEACH CRISP #209	8 GROUND BEEF BURRITO BUTTERED CORN CRACKERS ORANGE 3502
18 TACO SALAD SPANISH RICE SQUASH W/MARG CRACKERS PINEAPPLE	19 PORK CHOPS W/TOMATOES BAKED POTATOE MIXED VEGGIES WW ROLL W/MARG PEACHES #513	20 MEATLOAF MASHED POTATO MIXED VEGETABLES DINNER ROLL ORANGE #135	21 BBQ CHICKEN POTATO SALAD GARDEN SALAD W/DRESSING CORNBREAD APPLE PIE H#2	15 FRITO PIE LETTUCE/TOMATO ONIONS WATERMELON
25 CHICKEN BREAST SPINACH CALIFORNIA VEGGIES BISQUIT PEACH CRISP #150	26 SALISBURY STEAK SLICED RED PEPPER WW ROLL W/MARG PUMPKIN BREAD #107	27 CHICKEN SALAD SANDWICH MACARONI SALAD CRACKERS APRICOTS #SL7	28 BEEF TACOS LETTUCE & TOMATO SPANISH RICE PINTO BEANS CANTALOUPE #506	22 CHICKEN PASTA SALAD CRACKERS GRANOLA BARS HONEY DEW WATERMELON #SL6
				29 DILL BAKED FISH CORN & PEPPERS BREADSTICK PEARS YOGURT #404

Law Access New Mexico

is a free telephone legal advice service for low income New Mexicans to help solve civil legal problems. Our toll-free helpline is open 8:45 am - 3:30 pm Monday- Friday.
1-800-340-9771
 Asesoría Legal GRATIS via el telefono para personas viviendo en Nuevo Mexico con problemas legales civiles y cuyos ingresos sean bajos. Las Lineas estan abaiertas durante las horas de 8:45ms a 3:30pm, Lunes a Viernes.



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The
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SENIOR MOBILE FOOD PANTRY The third Wednesday of every month, the Gospel Mission in Silver City will distribute food at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1301 North Swan Street from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. If you are 55 years of age or older, live in Grant County and you need help with food, you are welcome to come by. Please bring your own box or bag to put food in. Help carrying will be available if you need it. If you would like to lend a hand in helping to set up or carrying boxes to cars, please show up at around 12:30 p.m.

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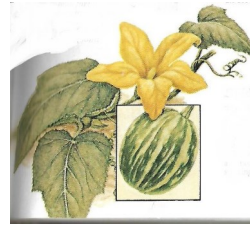


Teen Ink By Ajalaa Claussen

As summer sets and the dawn of school rises, time in the ever so bright sun never felt so short. We students reluctantly step out of our summer slumber and crawl out of bed to face another year of school. After being given so much freedom for two months, no teen wants to go back to schedules and work. But whilst the freedom feels nice, it is nothing more than a stupid stupor. And once a person falls into this state of being, it is hard to escape. When someone asks my grade, name, or age, it usually takes me a few seconds to think of it due to my lack of brain stimulus and once I do think of an answer it's usually wrong. All it takes is a nice long summer of nothingness to wipe my hard drive clean. And by the end of it, the only words I know are "me no want school." Though no teen will ever admit it, we need school to keep our brains and bodies functioning in a normal human manner.

Buffalo Gourd

Buffalo Gourd, *cucurbita foetidissima*, also called calabazilla, and coyote melon, has large gray-green leaves, and yellow trumpet-shaped blossoms on a trailing vine. The striped fruits look like tiny round watermelons, about the size of a tennis ball. Uses by Native Americans: young fruit is edible, but becomes poisonous when mature; pulp and seeds may have been used medicinally, seeds were eaten. Pulp and pounded stems can be mixed with water to make a soapy substance. Indians used gourds for containers and scoops.



Where was Conejo Mimbrenño in August?

I had great fun at the Hummingbird Festival held at the Mimbres Culture Heritage Site. There were so many hummingbirds! I was glad I did not see a peregrine falcon close by. Peregrines prey on smaller birds and maybe on rabbits!

BREAKING NEWS

S"AAA"N LORENZO ELEMETARY

For the third year in a row, San Lorenzo Elementary has received an "A" rating. More about this next month!

Congratulations to Everyone at the school!

San Lorenzo School Children Enjoying the Solar Eclipse



The Hummingbird Festival at MCHS was a great success! By Marilyn Markel

Hummingbird bander Bill Talbot and his team banded about two dozen of the tiny birds. Four different species were caught, banded, and released- black-chinned, broad-tailed, rufous, and calliope.

Bill Talbot, a retired surgeon, is working on his doctorate in ornithology at the University of New Mexico. His research focus is on desert birds but he greatly enjoys



San Lorenzo Students' interpretation of the hummingbirds

banding hummingbirds and sharing his knowledge with the public, as does his assistant, Jason Kitting. Jason, a biology student at UNM, is already accomplished in wildlife rescue and rehabilitation- he started participating in wildlife and banding projects as a child. Beth Hurst-Waitz, President Emeritus of Central N.M. Audubon Society, and her helper Yvette Messenger, patiently watched the traps, waiting for a hummer to fly into the cage,

Cont. on Page 20 - Hummingbirds



Where is Conejo Mimbrenño? Sponsored by the Grant County Archaeological Society

Continued from Page 9- Woman-Ochre

It is believed the painting was only reframed once, and it was not done by a professional. David believes that it probably went from the museum to the house and has been there the entire time. Local law enforcement and the FBI are looking into the case and maybe with some new leads will be able to answer these questions in the future. For now, the university is just grateful to have the painting. The painting isn't ready for public viewing yet. There will have to be more authentication and some restoration work before "Woman-Ochre" will appear in public.

The university couldn't believe that the men never asked for or demanded a reward. Sporting his new FBI baseball cap, Rick said the best part of this adventure was not just the thrill and excitement of being able to return this priceless painting to its rightful owners, but meeting so many new and wonderful people. They were impressed by the people from the FBI, law enforcement and the university. They had nothing but good things to say about all of them. Everyone else has nothing but good things to say about Buck, David and Rick! We are proud to have them as part of our local community.

ROUNDUP LODGE NOTES

If you have driven past the Roundup Lodge lately, you have no doubt noticed construction in progress at the entrance. By the time you read this, we should have a new, easily accessible handicap ramp in operation. This badly needed, compliant ramp will be a great benefit to all Lodge users. Big thanks to Barry Gray and his crew for a good job!

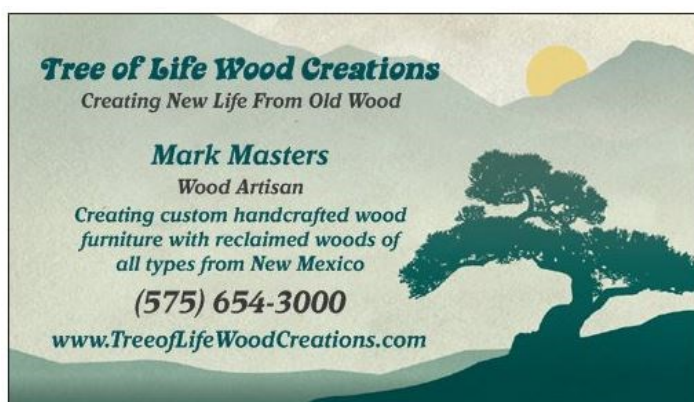
September Bingo will be on Sunday, September 10th from 2 to 5 pm. Remember that if you bring a toy for an elementary school age child (ages 3 to 12) you will receive a free Bingo card with your purchase of the 3 cards for \$10 package. Toys benefit the Boosters' San Lorenzo Elementary School Christmas Program.

The Mimbres Boosters are participating in fund raising for the San Lorenzo Elementary School weekend backpack program. With the new 4-day school schedule, many needy children have no reliable source for weekend lunches. This program provides 3 lunches for students on weekends. A donation of backpacks from Walmart, and a grant from the Volunteer Center with a pledge to match amounts raised independently we expect to be able to fully fund this project. The goal is to provide nutritious weekend lunches for all San Lorenzo Elementary students.

Details will be available at Bingo, and if you would like more information and would like to help, please call 536-9323.

For the third straight year, San Lorenzo Elementary School has received an "A" rating for overall performance. It is now an AAA School! Everyone in the Valley is proud of the students and faculty for this continued recognition of its programs.

Have a safe and happy Labor Day holiday and come to the Mimbres Harvest Festival on September 30th.



**Bingo
Bingo
Bingo**

Mimbres Roundup Lodge
Your Community Center

**Sunday, August 10th
2 pm to 5 pm**

**\$50 Grand
Prize**

Come join the fun!

**CARDS
\$5 FOR 1 OR
\$10 FOR 3
Plus More Money Games
And new prizes!**

Bring a toy suitable for 3 yrs to 12 years (\$5 to \$10 value) and receive one free card with the purchase of 3 cards.

No registrations will be accepted after Sept 15, 2017!

Vendor Registration Form for the Twelfth Annual!

2017 Mimbres Valley Harvest Festival

10am – 4pm Saturday, September 30, 2017

Registration Information:

Business Name _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____

Phone (am) _____ (pm) _____

Email _____

I am registering as:

Grant County Artist/Craftsperson – You are invited to display and sell your handmade arts and crafts. No buying and reselling of crafts, trinkets, or candy. Booth space is 10' by 10'. Medium of work (for example: weaving, pottery, embroidery):

Booth fee \$30 ***

*** 5 grants will be available on a first come basis for Mimbres Valley Artisan/Crafters who can demonstrate financial need, you must contact the Vendor Chair for more information.

Out of Grant County Artisans - All of the above requirements apply and in addition please call the vendor chair before sending an application to determine if there is space available

Booth fee \$60

Grant County Non-Profit Organization - Register for a table space to distribute information. Please include your space requirements. Local non-profit organization info and space requirements:

Booth fee \$15

Growers are FREE - Contact Valli McCaffrey at 520-678-8577

Booth fee enclosed: _____ No registrations will be accepted after September 15.

Booth fees are non-refundable and must accompany this registration form.

Checks and money orders only.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please mail this form **by September 15** to:

Mimbres Valley Harvest Festival c/o MVHAL, PO Box 137, Mimbres, NM 88049.

For more information visit our website: www.mimbresharvestfest.com or

call vendor chair Cheryl Copperstone at 575-536- 9821 Friday - Sunday or

email:celticknotetc@gmail.com

Mimbres Messenger
P. O. Box 137
Mimbres, NM 88049

Please email any suggestions, articles, announcements, upcoming events, advertising, etc. for consideration by the editors to:
willhite200@aol.com

We're on the web
www.mvhal.org
www.mimbresharvestfest.com
www.blackrange.org



MIMBRES VALLEY
HEALTH ACTION LEAGUE
PO BOX 137 MIMBRES, NM 88049
www.mvhal.org

Mimbres Messenger
Farmers' Market
Harvest Festival
Commodities Distribution
The San Lorenzo
Children's Garden

BULLETIN BOARD

WEDNESDAY, September 13 - 5:30 - 7:00 pm Mimbres Valley Health Action League Board Meeting. Roundup Lodge, Acklin Hill Road. ALL VALLEY RESIDENTS WELCOME

WEDNESDAY, September 20 - Noon to 2 pm
Commodities Pickup - Roundup Lodge - Volunteers needed to pack food. Please bring suitable boxes.

The Mimbres Valley Health Action League was founded for the purposes of improving the health, well-being, and quality of life for the people of the Mimbres region. Some of the ways targeted to do that are by improving communication and social networks, providing preventive health education, improving access to health and social services, increasing financial and economic stability, increasing recreation opportunities, increasing education opportunities, and promoting a safe and healthy environment.

Continued from Page 16 - Hummingbirds



Trapping the Birds for Banding
Photo by Pete Crum

pulling the door closed. The little birds were transported to the banding table. Bill and Jason measured, weighed, carefully inspecting each bird, then recorded the data. Species, age (juvenile or adult), male or female were all listed for each bird- along with the number on the tiny little band placed on the tiny little bird leg.



What it's all about! - Photo by Pete Crum

Carol Gardner was the winner of the Hummingbird Festival raffle basket. Carol is a retired NM State employee and lives up the valley. She participated in the festival. Congratulation, Carol.

Thank you to all of the volunteers!

Photos by Marilyn Markel



Watching the banding process
Photo by Marilyn Markel



Releasing the Birds - Photo by Pete Crum

Bill gave a presentation on identification of hummingbirds before leaving Mimbres and returning to Albuquerque. We were so lucky to have Bill and his friends at the festival- we all learned more about those amazing little birds. We also lucky to live in the Mimbres, where hummingbirds- lots and lots of hummingbirds- visit us each summer. Hummingbirds to enjoy and celebrate.



Thank you to all of the Vendors and attendees who helped to make this a huge success!